

Attitudes Towards the Sacred (Sermon in Song)

www.cvillechurch.com

Introduction: There has been a change in society in the way respect is shown.

- A. Our society has changed their expressions towards individuals.
 - 1. Older people were always addressed by Mr. and Mrs., and if they were a Christian they would be addressed as brother or sister. You would not hear young people address those older on a first name basis.
 - 2. Respect for women was displayed by opening the door for them and a man would surrender his seat if needed.
- B. Our nation and its leaders were respected.
 - 1. The flag was held in high honor.
 - 2. The presidency was respected and not made the subject of ridicule.
- C. We face great problems in the church because of a corresponding shift towards things divine.

I. Defining Some Bible Terms

- A. **Holy** – set apart to the worship of God.
- B. **Sacred** – holy, hallowed by association with the divine or consecrated, hence entitled to reverence.
- C. **Reverence** – honor or respect, profound respect mingled with love and awe.
- D. **Profane** – to violate, to treat with irreverence or contempt some thing regarded as sacred.
- E. **Blaspheme** – to speak or address with impious irreverence.
- F. **Irreverence** – absence of reverence.

II. Passages that show Reverence

A. Those surrounding God's throne (**Rev 4:6-8, 9-11; 5:14**)

#1 – Holy, Holy, Holy – Verses 1,2,3

- 1. All focus is upon God.
- 2. He is holy and should be bowed down to and praised with all the heart.
- 3. There is no light treatment of God by those in His presence.

B. Isaiah's trembling in the presence of God (**Isa 6:1-5**)

#168 – Beneath the Cross of Jesus – Verses 2, 3

- 1. God's absolute holiness caused Isaiah to see his sin and tremble.
- 2. All Isaiah could think about was how to be forgiven thus be in proper condition to be in His presence.
- 3. There was nothing boring about the experience!

C. In order to approach God, we must be aware of our own littleness.

- 1. God is the creator, we are the created. (**Psa 100:1-3**)

#185 – Something for Jesus – Verses 1, 2, 3

- 2. When we know who God is we keep quiet and listen. Our silence shows respect! (**Hab 2:20**)

#55 – The Lord is in His Holy Temple

- 3. Proud men need not approach our God.

D. God wants all men to have reverence for His Son, Jesus Christ. (**Phil 2:9-11**)

1. While God wants us to be aware of His presence and companionship, He must never be approached as a man!
2. Some think of God as a “buddy” and in doing so greatly err.

III. Areas in Which we Show Reverence

A. Our use of God’s name and that of His Son. (Psa 8:1)

1. We handle with care anything we consider to be excellent.(Ex. Wedding Ring)
2. How did Jesus teach His disciple to pray? “**Hallowed** be Your name.” (Mt 6:9)

#574 – All hail the power – Verses 1, 2, 4

3. God wanted His people to address Him with all reverence. (Ex 20:7)
4. Some common examples of profanity: “Oh Lord,” Lord have mercy,” “God almighty,” “Jesus Christ.” All of these phrases also have a proper use.
5. Consider the use of euphemism’s:
 - a. For God and Jesus: “gosh,” “golly,” “gee.”
 - b. Hell – “heck.”
 - c. Damn – “Dern”
 - d. Many will combine these to strongly take God’s name in vain.
6. There is no greater corrupt speech than this. (Eph 4:29)

#150 – Purer in heart, O God – Verses 1, 2, 3

B. Our display of reverence when we pray

1. We should have an awareness of the presence of God and our own unworthiness.
2. The condition of our heart will often be reflected by the position of our bodies.
 - a. The publican would not lift his eyes. (Lk 18:13)
 - b. Jesus knelt and fell on his face. (Mt 26:39)

#162 – Night with Ebon Pinion – verses 1, 2, 3

- c. Paul knelt and prayed with the elders. (Acts 20:36)
3. Our problem is that in a democracy we have forgotten respect. (Ex. Tricky Dick)

C. Our reverence in the assembly

1. Our worship is an sacred occasion because God is with us! (Mt 26:29; Heb 2:12)

#22 – He is in our midst – verses 1, 2

2. How many show great irreverence in our assemblies?

D. Our reverence in the handling of God’s word

1. God wants us to know His word is sacred. (2 Tim 3:15 NASV)
2. We should show considerable interest in His word. (1 Thess 2:13)
3. This is the root of all liberalism in the church. A lax attitude towards God causes men to take “liberties” with His word.

#416- Do all in the name of the Lord

- #### **E. We should have reverence for the place we have as the people of God. (Heb 12:22-28)**
1. What kind of example does our life show?
 2. Every day we are in the presence of God. Do we show it?

Conclusion: Let us be a reverent and holy people. Only then can we be of use in His service.

Inv. #415 – To Christ be true – Verses 1, 2, 3